

Walking the Camino to Spain: A Pilgrimage over the Pyrenees along the French Way

Led by

**The Rev. Canon Greg Foraker
The Episcopal Church in Colorado**

October 19 – November 3, 2020



The Camino de Santiago, or the way of St. James, actually begins in St. Jean de Port, France and continues some 500 miles to Santiago. This same path has been taken for hundreds of years by the faithful making their holy pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela. The path was also used by Roman, Moor and Saracen invaders, the Knights Templar and the armies of Charlemagne and Napoleon. Therefore, this journey is not only steeped in spiritual significance as you travel to the place believed to be the burial site of St. James, but it also has much historical and cultural significance.

This pilgrimage involves physical activity, including the ability to walk many miles at a time, to climb stairs, to climb hills and mountains and to be “on one’s feet” for hours at a time. The terrain is varied, ranging from simple footpaths to paved highways. Some of the footpaths are gravel, rocky, dusty, muddy and rutted by farmer’s tractors. Pilgrims will need sturdy hiking boots and collapsible poles. Each evening we will have a briefing of the following day’s walk options.

DAY 1, Monday, October 19, 2020 – We depart **Denver Airport** for our flight into **Bilbao, Spain** or **Toulouse, France** (to be determined when air can be confirmed). **M**

DAY 2, Tues. – Upon arrival in **Bilbao** or **Toulouse**, we meet our driver and guide and our journey continues to **Lourdes, France**. This afternoon, we enjoy a walk following the **Stations of the Cross**. Dinner and overnight **Lourdes**. **D**



DAY 3, Wed. – Today, we explore **Lourdes**, the town has played host to millions of pilgrims from all over the world. The morning is free for those that wish to visit the **Baths of Lourdes** to be submerged into the water of miracles. This afternoon we **walk in the footsteps of Bernadette** as we visit the **grotto** where the St. Bernadette saw the first of 18 visions on February 11, 1858, and the **Basilica**. Together, as a sign of unity and sharing, this evening we attend the **Torchlight Procession**. Overnight **Lourdes**. **B**

DAY 4, Thurs. – After breakfast, we drive to **St. Jean Pied de Port** along a route that for centuries has been traveled by Pilgrims along many different paths. These paths join together as one in the small Midi Pyrenees town of **St. Jean Pied de Port**. It is here that they become one with one single destination, **Santiago de Compostela**. A journey, which you will soon realize, that for every pilgrim, is as unique as a fingerprint. We enjoy an afternoon walk through the town and visiting the church. Dinner and overnight **St. Jean Pied de Port**. **BD**

DAY 5, Fri. – Today’s walk takes us on the **Napoleon Route** over the **Pyrenees** or the slightly less strenuous **Valcarlos Valley Route** (the choice is yours) to **Roncesvalles** (25 km). We attend the **Pilgrims’ Mass** at the **Collegiata**, which has been celebrated for almost 1000 years and is one of the most important services on the **Camino**. Dinner and overnight **Roncesvalles**. **BD**

DAY 6, Sat. – Today, we walk from **Roncesvalles** to **Zubiri** (21 km) where we board the coach and continue to **Pamplona**. Dinner and overnight **Pamplona**. **BD**

DAY 7, Sun. – This is a day that begins before the sun rises and ends way after the sunsets. This is a day where we need to be flexible, focused, think of others, and maybe sacrifice rest time. We walk from **Pamplona** to **Uterga** (17 km) crossing the **Alto de Perdon**, an uphill walk followed by a steep downhill walk to our waiting bus. Time permitting, we visit **Eunate Church**. We continue to **Estella** for a brief stop at the **wine fountain** before continuing through the vineyards to **Azofra** and then on to **Santo Domingo de Silos** for **Vespers**. Overnight in **Santo Domingo de Silos**. **B**

DAY 8, Mon. – After breakfast, our journey continues as we travel by bus to **Hontanas**, the starting point for today’s walk to **Castrojeriz** (10 km). Once we have regrouped the coach takes us to **Boadilla** where we walk along the **Canal of**

Castilla (4 km). Upon arrival in **Leon**, we visit the **Basilica of San Isidoro** and the **Cathedral of Leon**. Dinner and overnight **Leon**. **BD**

DAY 9, Tues. – We board the bus and travel to **Astorga** for a short stop before continuing to **Foncebaddon** where we begin today's walk to **Cruz de Ferro**, the highest point on the **Camino in Spain** (3.5 km). We travel to **Pieros** and begin our walk to **Villafranca del Bierzo** (6 km) before continuing on the coach to **Ruitelan** where we walk one of the most challenging stages of the Camino, up a mountain known as **La Faba**, entering **Galicia**, to **Ocebreiro** (9 km). We renew our baptismal vows before boarding the bus and continuing to **Sarria** for overnight. **BL**



DAY 10, Wed. – Today, we depart before sunrise hiking through the beautiful rolling hills of **Galicia** from **Sarria** to **Portomarin** (23 km). Dinner and overnight **Portomarin**. **BD**

DAY 11, Thurs. – We leave the **River Miño** behind as we climb the hill out of **Portomarin**. Our walk taking us towards **Gonzar**, **Hospital da Cruz** and **Ligonde**, and finally to **Palas de Rei** (25 km). Dinner and overnight **Palas de Rei**. **BD**

DAY 12, Fri. – Our longest day of walking is today as we walk from **Palas de Rei** to **Arzua** (30 km). We travel through forests and along streams. **Melide** is today's halfway point. Dinner and overnight **Arzua**. **BD**

DAY 13, Sat. – After the storm comes the calm. A much shorter day today as we walk from **Arzua** to **Pedrouzo** (23 km). It is a perfect day to reflect on the past days. A day where we are invited to go at a snail's pace. Dinner and overnight **Pedrouzo**. **BD**

DAY 14, Sun. – Today is our final days walk where we say goodbye to the countryside and begin passing the busier villages as we get closer to **Santiago** (20 km). **Monte do Gozo** (Mount of Joy) is the point where we all regroup to walk the last 4 km of this journey together into the city of **Santiago de Compostela**. This afternoon, we visit the **tomb of St James**. Dinner and overnight **Santiago de Compostela**. **BD**



DAY 15, Mon. – We are free to explore this morning before joining together to attend the **Pilgrims Mass** at the **Cathedral**. This afternoon, we travel to **Finisterre**, the end of the world, as it was known in centuries past. Here we walk the last couple of kilometers that takes us to the lighthouse. It is here, after walking a further 4 days from **Santiago de Compostela**, that many pilgrims end their journey. It is here, also, that we have our final reflection, share our thoughts, and gain closure enjoying the sunset at the **Lighthouse** before returning to **Santiago** for overnight. **B**

DAY 16, Tuesday, November 3, 2020 – We have an early morning departure for the **Santiago Airport** where we board our back to the **Denver Airport**. **BM**

B - Breakfast L - Lunch D - Dinner M - Meal on board aircraft

* Itinerary is subject to change due to the leader's, guide and or local office discretion or conditions *

KB20016 – Foraker France Spain

Price is based on double occupancy:

17 - 20 pilgrims \$4,449.00* 21 – 24 pilgrims \$4,129.00* 25 – 30 pilgrims \$3,799.00*
Single supplement \$669.00 (limited space)

* The price is not guaranteed and may change once the airspace is confirmed. Air Itinerary will be confirmed by the end of 2019. Pricing includes airline taxes & fuel surcharges of \$158.61 per pilgrim and is subject to change until the tickets are issued. Price based on the exchange rate of \$1.12 to the Euro and will change only if the rate changes. Any changes will be reflected on your final invoice. Optional activities, taxis taken instead of walking and sites visited during your free time are not included in the cost of the pilgrimage and are to be paid for at the time of your visit. Tips for the driver and guide are payable upon completion of services.

A non-refundable cash deposit of \$900.00 per pilgrim is due with the reservation form and a copy of the passport by January 31, 2020.

Final Payment Due by July 10, 2020.

The Mission: Unlimited by geographical or religious divisions, Worldwide Journeys conceives and implements new ideas and models for exploration of our world through travel.

Worldwide Journeys brings travelers to the historical, educational and spiritual centers of the world. In so doing, we bring global unity to the people who travel and the people we visit.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: Round trip economy airline reservations on regularly scheduled airlines.

HOTELS: Rooms with private bath/shower based on double occupancy (two persons sharing). Hotel rating - Deluxe, First Class, Superior Tourist or Tourist are used unless otherwise specified by the leader (hotel category is chosen by the group leader). Guest Houses, Retreat Centers & Bed and Breakfasts may have communal rooming arrangements and facilities. Single room accommodation is subject to a surcharge. Hotels are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

SIGHTSEEING: As indicated in the itinerary, with licensed English speaking guides unless otherwise determined by the leader. Entrance fees as indicated are included.

DEPOSITS AND PAYMENT: Deposits are required at the time of registration and balance is due 90 days before departure unless otherwise noted.

CANCELLATIONS: Must be made in writing. Cancellation penalties are determined by the penalties imposed upon Worldwide Journeys by the airline carrier, the ground operator, coach company, and hotels. **Cancellation penalties will be listed on your invoice and/or on your itinerary or application. The cancellation penalty will be a specific amount plus any unrecoverable charges imposed by our suppliers. Within 45 days of departure, NO REFUNDS. Earlier non-refundable cancellation penalties may apply to your specific itinerary. Dates will be listed on your brochure and/or application.**

INSURANCE: Worldwide Journeys acts only as an agent for suppliers and is not responsible for any theft, damage, loss of luggage or illness. The forms for insurance coverage are offered to all registrants before departure.

UNUSED TOUR ARRANGEMENTS: Refunded **only** when agreed to by hotel, coach company, or other providers.

BAGGAGE: Major airlines change their rules regarding checked and hand luggage constantly. Please check with each carrier personally to be sure you are getting the most up to date information. Excess baggage charges are very expensive so be sure to weigh and measure your luggage to avoid a big surprise at the check-in counter.

NOT INCLUDED: Passport, visa fees, excess baggage charges, baggage or personal insurance, inoculations, laundry, telephone charges, tips for the driver and guide, food and beverage other than those provided on regular menus as provided by Worldwide Journeys.

RESPONSIBILITY: Worldwide Journeys of Jacksonville, Florida acts only as agents for passengers and companies, owners or contractors providing transportation and accommodations or other services of the tour. Worldwide Journeys, travel agent, shall not be liable for any loss or damage to baggage or property; or for injury, illness or death or any damages or claims whatsoever arising from loss, negligence or delay from the act, error, or negligence of anyone not a direct employee under its exclusive control. Transportation companies, airlines, etc. are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on airplane transportation or conveyances. Passenger contracts in use by the airlines or transportation companies when used constitute the sole contract between the airline, the transportation company, and passenger or purchaser of the tour, and Worldwide Journeys assumes no responsibility for this connection.

DEVIATIONS: Deviations by individuals to the set itinerary will be provided if possible at a charge of \$100 per person plus any charges imposed by airlines, hotels, or other vendors.